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BELPER  
Urban District Council.

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**REPORT**

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OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health**

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FOR THE

**Year 1937.**

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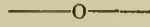
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BELPER :

TOM BROWN, PRINTER AND STATIONER, BRIDGE STREET.



# Belper Urban District Council.



## HEALTH COMMITTEE,

December 31st, 1937.

Councillor J. W. BLACKHAM (Chairman).

„ F. C. BATEMAN.  
„ J. E. BENNETT.  
„ J. W. FLINDERS.  
„ S. FROGGATT.  
„ J. H. HAWKINS.  
„ H. G. MELBOURNE.  
„ W. H. ORME.  
„ J. W. PATCHETT.  
„ D. A. SMEDLEY.  
„ C. SMITH.  
„ F. C. WAINWRIGHT.  
„ D. WILSON, J.P.

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### *Representatives on the Belper Joint Isolation Hospital Committee :*

Councillor J. W. BLACKHAM.

„ J. W. FLINDERS.  
„ J. W. PATCHETT.

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### Health Department.

#### *Clerk :*

J. PERCY R. PYM, Solicitor, Belper.

#### *Medical Officer of Health :*

RICHARD C. ALLEN, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.),  
D.P.H. (Birm.).

#### *Sanitary Inspector :*

JOHN A. STATHAM, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Cert. Meat and other  
Foods Inspector.

#### *Health Visitor :*

NURSE HUGHES, County Council Offices, Derby ; Children's  
Welfare Clinic, Green Hall, Belper.

## BELPER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

—o—

### Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1937.

—o—

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

It is with great pleasure that I present to you my Seventeenth Annual Report, along with the vital statistics. This is the sixtieth annual report presented by my late father and myself consecutively.

The population of the District is estimated to be 14,540, this is from the returns of the Registrar General.

One-hundred and sixty-nine deaths took place in the year, giving a Death Rate of 10.81 per 1,000 of the population. This is against 156 deaths, in 1936, and a Death Rate of 10.5 per 1,000. During the year there were 37 deaths of people of over 75 years of age.

Two-hundred and nine Births were registered during the year, giving a Birth Rate of 14.37 per 1,000 of the population; whilst in the preceding year there were 217 births, giving a Birth Rate of 14.6 per 1,000.

Seven deaths took place of children under 1 year of age, giving an Infantile Death Rate of 38.2 per 1,000 births. During the preceding year there were 15 deaths of Infants under 1 year, giving an Infantile Mortality Rate of 69.1—a very satisfactory condition.

Fifty-eight Cases of Scarlet Fever were brought to my notice during the year and 51 of these were removed to the Isolation Hospital. There was one death due to this malady of a boy aged 18, who had the disease in a very malignant form. Five cases of Diphtheria were brought to my notice, and all were removed to the Isolation Hospital. This is 2 less than the number for the preceding year.

I have in former reports brought to your notice the great necessity for the sewerage of Farnah Green, Lower Chevin and Blackbrook, and I am pleased to state that the matter is now in the Engineer's hands. Before long there is no doubt we shall have an enquiry by an official from the Ministry of Health. I am confident that Broadholme should have your earnest consideration as it is high time some form of sewage disposal for that area should be put in hand and a proper water carriage system installed.

In former reports I have brought to your notice the great necessity for a cesspool emptier. I know that the number of cesspools is gradually diminishing or should be, but this vehicle can be put to so many other uses, *e.g.*, emptying of street gullies, etc.

The Farms and Cow-byres of the District have been under the constant supervision of your officials and great improvements have taken place. Forty-one new floors have been laid.

Time and time again I have brought to your notice the stench that comes from the sewage works and complaints are constantly coming to me both from passers-by and also the residents around that area. So far nothing has been done, but I do ask you to treat this matter as one of the gravest urgency.

During the dry-periods of the year the street gullies should have more attention and frequent flushings.

During the latter part of the year the Council decided to adopt Bye-laws relating to the humane slaughtering of sheep and this Act will come into force in the district, during February, 1938. This has been a Hardy Annual of mine for many years and I am pleased to say that my efforts have now borne fruit ; but I am still waiting to see Bye-Laws adopted relating to the throwing of paper, fruit skins, etc., on the roads and pavements.

During the year an enquiry was held by an Official from the Ministry of Health concerning certain slum clearances under the Housing Act, 1936.

I must again thank all the Members of the Council and the Clerk, Mr. J. Percy R. Pym, for their valued help ; also Mr. J. A. Statham, the Sanitary Inspector, for his very efficient work and co-operation.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

RICHARD C. ALLEN,

Medical Officer of Health.

Belper,

May, 1938.



### STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

Area of District in acres ....	....	....	....	....	4,294
Rateable Value ....	....	....	....	....	£68,293
General Rate for the Year ....	....	....	....	....	11s. 4d.
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ....	....	....	....	....	£284
Total Debt for all purposes ....	....	....	....	....	£127,881
Debt for Housing only ....	....	....	....	....	£84,719

### Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

Population for the Year 1931 ....	....	....	....	....	13,023
Estimated Population for the middle of the Year 1937					14,540
Number of Houses on the Rate Book at the end of the Year ....	....	....	....	....	3,493
Number of separate Families ....	....	....	....	....	4,603
Number of New Houses erected....	....	....	....	....	53
Chief Occupations of inhabitants—Cotton and Hosiery, Iron- workers and Coal-mining.					
Number of Births registered—Males, 97 ; Females, 94. Total 191.					
Corrected Births—Males, 109 ; Females, 100. Total, 209.					
Number of Illegitimate Births—Males, 4 ; Females, 4. Total, 8.					
Still-births—Males, 6 ; Females, 6. Total, 12.					
Birth Rate per 1,000 of Population, 14.3.					
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 15.19.					
Number of Deaths—Males, 82 ; Females, 87. Total, 169.					
Death Rate per 1,000 of Population, 10.8 ; last year there were 156 deaths—Males, 93 ; Females, 63. Total, 156 ; the Death Rate being 10.5.					
Infantile Mortality per 1,000 Births, 38.2, against 69.1, in 1936.					
Number of Women dying in consequence of childbirth					Nil
Deaths from Measles ....	....	....	....	....	Two
Deaths from Whooping Cough ....	....	....	....	....	One
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)					Three
Deaths from Scarlet Fever ....	....	....	....	....	One
Deaths from Diphtheria ....	....	....	....	....	Nil
Zymotic Death Rate ....	....	....	....	....	.06
Phthisis Death Rate ....	....	....	....	....	.4
Respiratory Death Rate ....	....	....	....	....	1.03
Death Rate from continued Fever and Diarrhoeal Diseases ....	....	....	....	....	.2
Deaths from Cancer—Males, 8 ; Females, 15. Total, 23 ; giving a Death Rate per 1,000 of Population of 1.5.					



## NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

The Urban District of Belper occupies the centre of the County, on the watershed of the River Derwent, which flows from the Western portion from North to South.

It is surrounded by the Rural District of Belper, with the exception of a small portion to the North and North East, which adjoins the Ripley Urban District. The elevation of the District varies from 200 to 400 feet above sea-level.

Geologically, Belper is divided into areas, roughly separated by the River Derwent. On the East of the River the geological formation belongs in the main to the upper coal measures, with well defined escarpments of millstone grit. On the West of the river the coal measures have been denuded away, larger areas of the millstone grit being exposed.

Chief occupations of inhabitants—Coal-mining, iron-moulding, cotton and hosiery, and glove-making.

### Totally Unemployed during 1937. Belper Town and Milford.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Weekly Average ....	220	12	232

#### Chief Industries—

<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Textile and Hosiery.	Cotton.
Stove and Grate Foundries.	Hosiery and Textile.
Iron Foundries.	Glove Making.
Coal Mining.	Distributive Trades.
Building Trades.	

#### Unemployment. State up to end of 1937—

##### *Textile and Hosiery.*

Much short-time working experienced during 1937, but a decided improvement since Christmas.

*Cotton.*

A general slackness since July. No noticeable improvement yet and much systematic short time being worked.

*Stove and Grate Foundries.*

Short-time working prevailed during the whole of 1937, but to no great extent.

*Iron Foundries.*

Trade good.

*Coal Mining.*

There was a marked improvement during the year against previous years.

*Building Trades.*

Good.

*Distributive Trades (Shops).*

Good.

I am indebted to the Manager and his Assistant of the Belper Labour Exchange for the above information.

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## GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Hospitals provided or subsidised by the Local Authority or by the County Council :—

**Tuberculosis.**—The Tuberculosis Dispensary is held at the County Offices, Derby, and is open on Friday, each week from 10 a.m. till 12-30 p.m., and 2 to 4 p.m. Tubercular patients are also visited in their homes from time to time by both the Tuberculosis Officer and the Health Visitor. The County Sanatoria are at Walton, near Chesterfield, and at Bretby, near Burton-on-Trent.

**Maternity.**—No Hospital in the district with the exception of a Maternity Ward at the Public Assistance Institution for poor persons. The Belper Nursing Association has three Nurses, two for Midwifery and one for General Nursing, and there are also two private qualified Midwives in the district.

**Children.**—There is no Children's Hospital in the district. The Derbyshire Royal Infirmary, Derby, has a Children's Ward, and there is also a Children's Hospital in Derby.

**Fever.**—Belper Joint Isolation Hospital, at Heage, near Belper. Beds: Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Enteric Fever, 67; Small Pox, 18.

**Clinic and Treatment Centres.**—The Derbyshire County Council hold a School Clinic and a Child Welfare Centre, at the Green Hall, Belper, two days a week, and Dental Surgeons and Ophthalmic Surgeons visit the Centre.

An Orthopaedic Hospital for Tubercular Diseases of the Bones and Joints is well established under the Derbyshire County Council, at Bretby, near Burton-on-Trent.

Ante-natal Clinics are well established under the County Council, and are under the supervision of a Lady Doctor, engaged by the County Council.

Treatment Centres for Venereal Diseases are at the Royal Infirmary, Derby, there being separate Sessions for the Males and Females.

## PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

The Medical Officer of Health holds the D.P.H. Diploma and his appointment is a part-time one. The Sanitary Inspector holds the two Certificates from the Royal Sanitary Institute. This is a whole-time appointment.

**Chemical Work.**—Pathological and Bacteriological examinations are made free of charge at the County Offices (Derby County Council).

Professional Nursing in the Home.—(a) by one Nurse employed by the Belper Nursing Association ; (b) for Infectious Diseases there is no appointed Nurse ; (c) Midwifery, two Nurses are employed by the Belper Nursing Association, and there are two private Certified Midwives.

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## BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT.

Bye-laws with respect to New Buildings and Streets, March, 1926.

Bye-laws with respect to Common Lodging Houses, October 24th, 1878.

Bye-laws with respect to Slaughter-houses, April 25th, 1888.

Bye-laws with respect to Nuisances, November 28th, 1878.

Bye-laws with respect to Offensive Trades, October, 1914.

**Deaths registered during the Year 1937, classified  
by age and cause.**

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths in whole District at subjoined Ages.												
	All Ages		Under 1.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5	5 and under 10.	10 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45	45 and under 65.	65 and under 75	75 and upwards.	Deaths in Public Inst.
	Males.	Females.											
Typhoid & paratyphoid fevers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Measles	1	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza	2	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3	1	...
Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	6	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	2	...	...	...
Other Tubercular Diseases	...	3	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	1
Syphilis	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
General paralysis of the in- sane, etc.	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Cancer, Malignant Disease	8	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	8	9	4	7
Diabetes	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	2
Cerebral Hæmorrhage,	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Heart Disease	19	28	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	12	17	16	20
Aneurism	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...
Other circulatory diseases	5	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	4	4
Bronchitis	1	5	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	2	...
Pneumonia (all forms)	6	1	...	1	2	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	1
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	2
Peptic Ulcer	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Diarrhœa, (under 2 years)	3	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Other digestive diseases	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	5	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	2	...	4
Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital debility premature birth, malformations, etc.	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Senility	5	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	10
Suicide	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	1	...	...
Other violence	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	1
Other defined diseases	7	6	1	...	...	1	...	...	3	5	3	...	2
Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	82	87	8	3	4	2	1	6	19	49	40	37	58

## Infantile Mortality.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1 week		1-2 weeks		2-3 weeks		3-4 weeks		Total under 1 month		1-3 months		3-6 months		6-9 months		9-12 months		Total Deaths under 1 year.	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Premature Births, Congenital Debility, Malformations, &c.	1				2				3		1								4	
Pneumonia															1		1		2	
Bronchitis ...													1							1
Diarrhœa ...																				
Totals	1				2				3		1		1	1			1		6	1

## Births registered during the Year.

	Males	Females	Total	Illegitimate
January -	9	8	17	...
February -	10	5	15	...
March -	4	13	17	...
April -	9	12	21	2
May -	7	9	16	1
June -	8	7	15	1
July -	8	7	15	...
August -	10	4	14	...
September -	5	5	10	1
October -	8	6	14	2
November -	13	10	23	...
December -	6	8	14	...
Totals	97	94	191	7

The above is the total number of Births registered in the District. The returns from the R.G. allows for Births that took place in the District, but really belong to other Districts, and vice versa, are taken into account.

The total number of Births for the District are :—

Males	Females	Total
109	100	209



Birth Rates, Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Death Rates, and Case Rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1937 (England and Wales, London, 125 Great Towns and 148 Smaller Towns) :—

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

	England and Wales.	125 County Boro's and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000 to 50,000 1931 Census).	London Administrative County.
Rates per 1,000 Population.				
<i>Births :—</i>				
Live ... ..	14. 9	14. 9	15. 3	13. 3
Still ... ..	0.60	0.67	0.64	0.54
<i>Deaths :—</i>				
All Causes ... ..	12. 4	12. 5	11. 9	12. 3
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Small Pox ... ..	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.01
Scarlet Fever ... ..	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Whooping Cough ...	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.06
Diphtheria ... ..	0.07	0.08	0.05	0.05
Influenza ... ..	0.45	0.39	0.42	0.38
Violence ... ..	0.54	0.45	0.42	0.51
<i>Notifications :—</i>				
Small Pox ... ..	0.00	—	0.00	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	2.33	2.56	2.42	2.09
Diphtheria ... ..	1.49	1.81	1.38	1.93
Enteric Fever ... ..	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.05
Erysipelas ... ..	0.37	0.43	0.34	0.44
Pneumonia ... ..	1.36	1.58	1.20	1.18
Rates per 1,000 Live Births.				
Deaths under 1 year of age ... ..	58	62	55	60
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age ... ..	5. 8	7. 9	3. 2	12. 0
<i>Maternal Mortality :—</i>				
Puerperal Sepsis ...	0.97	—	—	—
Others ... ..	2.26	Not available.		
Total ... ..	3.23	—	—	—
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e., Live and Still).				
<i>Maternal Mortality :—</i>				
Puerperal Sepsis ...	0.94	{ Not available.		
Others ... ..	2.17			
Total ... ..	3.11			
<i>Notifications :—</i>				
Puerperal Fever ...	{ 13.93	17.59	11.52	4.15
Puerperal Pyrexia ...				14.34



### Infectious Diseases.

Cases notified during 1937 :—

						<i>Number of cases removed</i>	
						<i>Notified.</i>	<i>to hospital.</i>
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	....	....	....	....	....	11	4
Tuberculosis (other forms)	....	....	....	....	....	6	1
Small Pox—							
Number vaccinated and re-vaccinated, Nil							
Number vaccinated in infancy .... Nil							
Number unvaccinated .... Nil							
Scarlet Fever	....	....	....	....	....	58	51
Diphtheria	....	....	....	....	....	5	5
Enteric (Typhoid) Fever	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
Puerperal Fever	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
Erysipelas	....	....	....	....	....	2	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
Acute Polio-Myelitis	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
Pneumonia	....	....	....	....	....	10	—
Measles	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
Chicken Pox	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
Other Diseases (specify them)	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
Totals						92	61

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is supplied free of charge by the Local Authority when necessary.

## AGE GROUPS.

	Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 "	3-4 "	4-5 "	5-10 "	10-15 "	15-20 "	20-35 "	35-45 "	45-65 "	Total
Small Pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric Fever (including	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Para-Typhoid	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Pyrexia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Diseases generally	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
notifiable—Specify :—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Diseases notifiable	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
locally. Specify :—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	..	1	4	1	8	34	9	4	8	2	9	75

# Prevalence of Notifiable Diseases.

Number of cases notified monthly.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
	Tuberculosis—Pulmonary	1	2	...	...	1	2	...	2	..	...	...	3	11
	“ Non Pulmonary	1	1	...	...	1	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	6
	Scarlet Fever	5	4	2	3	6	2	4	4	6	5	9	8	58
	Diphtheria	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	1	1	...	5
	Erysipelas	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2
	Pneumonia	3	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	2	...	1	10
	Totals	10	8	3	5	9	5	5	8	8	9	10	12	92

### Notifiable Diseases.

The following number of Cases were Notified during the years 1933—  
1937 inclusive, and are useful for comparison.

	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	Totals
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	8	9	5	9	11	42
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	7	3	3	4	6	23
Scarlet Fever ...	12	47	43	55	58	215
Diphtheria ...	3	5	1	7	5	21
Erysipelas ..	7	3	4	4	2	20
Pneumonia ...	2	2	1	2	10	17
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	...	..	...	1	...	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	3	...	...	...	...	3
Puerperal Fever ...	1	2	...	...	...	3
Anterio Polio Myelitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Para Typhoid Fever ...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Totals ...	43	71	58	82	92	346

### Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Cases.			Vision Un- impaired	Vision impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths.
Notified	Treated.					
	At home	In Hospital				
—	—	—	—	—	—	—

**TUBERCULOSIS. New Cases and Mortality during the Year 1937.** 18

AGE PERIODS.	New Cases.				TOTALS		Deaths.				TOTALS	
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		M	F	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		M	F
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.			Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.		
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
35	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	6	5	1	5	7	10	6	2	...	3	6	5

The following are the numbers of Specimens from your area that were examined in the County Bacteriological Laboratory during the year 1937 :—

						<i>Positive.</i>	<i>Negative.</i>
Enterica :—							
Typhoid, Para-typhoid A and B	....	....				1	1
Gaertner, Dysentery, etc.	....	....	....			—	3
Diphtheria	....	....	....	....		1	40
Phthisis	....	....	....	....		9	30
Water	....	....	....	....		7	—
Milk for Metheylene Blue Reduction Test,							
Routine Samples	....	....	....	....		1	5
Milk for Bacterial Count, Routine Samples	....					—	2
Milk for Bacillus Coli, Routine Samples	....					5	3
Milk and Dairies Act	....	....	....	....		2	5
Routine Samples	....	....	....	....		—	4
Miscellaneous, other sources	....	....	....			4	3
						—	—
Totals	....	....	....			30	96
						—	—

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health, Dr. W. M. Ash for the above figures.

### NOTES ON NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

During the year 1937, 92 cases of Notifiable Disease have been brought to my notice, as compared with 82 in the previous year. The total number of cases are made up as follows: Pulmonary Tuberculosis 11; Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis 6; Scarlet Fever 58; Diphtheria 5; Erysipelas 2; Pneumonia 10. They are distributed among the four Wards as follows:—

#### Analysis of Notifiable Diseases in different Wards of the Urban District.

	<i>North East South Central Mi.ford</i>					<i>Total</i>
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	3	2	4	2	...	11
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	3	2	...	...	6
Scarlet Fever	... 13	19	12	7	7	58
Diphtheria	... ...	1	3	...	1	5
Pneumonia	... 2	...	5	2	1	10
Erysipelas	... ...	2	...	...	...	2
Totals	... 19	27	26	11	9	92

**Pulmonary Tuberculosis.**—Eleven cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis have been reported to me during the year 1937, 2 more than the previous year; the average spread over the last five years is 8.4 as against 8.6 for the period from 1932-1936. The cases for the past year occurred in the following Wards :—North, 3; South, 2; East, 4; Central, 2, and Milford Nil, as against None in the North, 1 in the South, 3 in the East, 3 in the Central and 2 in the Milford Ward.

The average number of cases spread over the five years for the following Wards is as follows :—North, 1.6; South, 2.6; East, 2.8; Central, 1; Milford only being added recently to your district.

**Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.**—During the year 6 cases have been brought to my notice under this heading, two more than last year. They were distributed among three wards as follows :—North, 1; 3 in the South and 2 in the East. During the past five years 22 cases have been notified giving an average spread over the period from 1933-1937 of 4.4, an increase over the five years ending 1936.

The averages for the five years for the various Wards are as follows :—North, 1.6; South, 1.4; East, 1.2; Central, .02; Milford, .02. The number of cases on the Register at the end of the year, 1937 :—Pulmonary Tuberculosis: Males, 37; Females, 19. Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis: Males, 2; Females, 17, making a total of Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis of 75. If we deduct 3 transfer cases that were added during the year 1 Pulmonary and 2 Non-Pulmonary there was one more case on the register at the end of 1937 than at the end of the previous year 1936, which I consider very satisfactory.

All the Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis cases are under the supervision of the Tuberculosis Medical Officer and the Health Visitor. In necessitous cases additional nourishment is supplied by the County Council on the advice of the Medical Officer of Health, and where necessary and advisable, Shelters are provided by the County Council.

**Scarlet Fever.**—There have been 3 more cases this year than there were during the year 1936. The average for the five years works out at 43, an increase of 1.2 over the previous five years. If the distribution of the disease among the four wards is considered, it is found that the South and the East provided the largest number of cases, viz.: 27 and 26 respectively, whilst the North and Central come next with 19 and 11 and Milford with 9, 8 more than last year.

In the previous year the South Ward contributed 19 cases, the East 15, North 10 and Central 10, so the South Ward had the same number of cases as the previous year, East Ward had three less, the North having three more than the previous year, and Milford the same number as the year before, namely, one. Most of the



cases were mild in character, but in one case I regret to report that the case, being of a malignant type, proved fatal.

**Diphtheria.**—Five cases were reported to me during the year 1937, two less than the year before; three of the cases occurred in the East Ward and one each in the South and Milford Wards. All the cases were mild in character and readily responded to treatment and recovered. For the past five years there has been an average of 4.2 per year.

**Puerperal Pyrexia.**—Not a single case under this heading has been brought to my notice during the year, making three years in succession that there has not been a single case. There have only been three for the past five years, giving an average of .6 per year.

**Puerperal Fever.**—During the period that the Notification of cases under the above heading was in operation, not a single case has been brought to my notice, and only three cases have been reported in the past five years, giving an average of .6 per year.

### NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year there have been 2 deaths from Measles, whereas in the previous year there were none. Again I wish to emphasise that the number of children affected with this malady could be considerably reduced if only the children in the Infectious stage were not allowed to mix with others.

**Cancer.**—Below I give a list of the Males and Females, with their ages and the organs attacked, who have died during the Year 1938 :—

<i>Males.</i>	<i>Age.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Age.</i>
Ventriculi ....	45	Rectum....	70
" ....	80	" ....	62
Rectum ....	73	Ovary ....	37
" ....	58	" ....	45
Pancreas ....	64	Colon ....	51
Colon and Rectum ....	68	Liver and Colon ....	54
" "	60	Breast ....	72
Pylorus ....	77	Pancreas ....	77
		Uteri ....	70
		" ....	57
		Gall Bladder ....	65
		OEsophagus ....	80
		" ....	41
		Stomach ....	71
		Lung ....	37

This makes a total of 8 Males and 15 Females dying from Cancer during the year 1937. In 1936 there were 13 Males and 8 Females, a decrease of 5 Males and an increase of 7 Females. The average age of Death for the Males was 68.1 years, and for the Females 59.2 years. For the previous year the average age at death was :—Males, 68.3 years, Females, 60.7 years.

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## RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Pollution of the River Derwent still goes on from the houses situate at Broadholme and Bridge Foot, in spite of the fact that I have repeatedly brought this matter to your notice. I have also mentioned in my former reports about the silting up of the Coppice Brook at various points, and it would be advisable for the Council to give instructions for it to be cleaned out at the points where the Storm Sewer delivers into the Watercourse.

## SEWERS.

Under the previous heading of Rivers and Streams I have stated that the River Derwent is polluted by Sewage from houses situate at Broadholme and Bridge Foot. I have previously drawn your attention to the lack of Sewers in these areas, but I regret that nothing has been done. I am pleased to know that steps are being taken to sewer Farnah Green, Blackbrook and Lower Chevin Road, with the exception of Swainsley where there are approximately 20 houses. I was hoping that a complete scheme would have been placed before you, including the whole of the houses on the Lower Chevin Road. During the Year complaints were received as to the emptying of the Cesspools on the Lower Chevin Road, and the depositing of the Sewage on Grazing land ; but I am pleased to report that these complaints have been dealt with, an improved method has been adopted in the emptying of the Cesspools, and that the contents instead of being deposited on the Grazing fields, are now being emptied down a manhole on the Sewer a short distance away.

Whilst dealing with the question of Sewage, in my Annual Report last year I reported that I had received numerous complaints with reference to the Offensive Odours emanating from the Sewage Works. I regret that very little improvement has been made, and at the present time I am receiving complaints from pedestrians using Derby Road, of the foul stench coming from the Sewage Works. I must impress upon the Council to use their endeavours to mitigate the nuisance. I suggested last year they consider the matter of the chlorination of the sewage—has this been tried ?

## HOUSING.

The general condition of the dwelling-houses in this district is gradually being improved. Improvements are being made to bring them into line with modern requirements by some Owners on their own initiative, while others have been requested to do so by your Officials, either by informal or formal action.

In some instances Back-to-Back dwelling-houses have been made through houses, and a great improvement has taken place. Other houses have been improved by making two houses into one house, thus giving the Tenants some of those amenities which were not there before. During the year, under the Housing Act, 1935, where overcrowding existed, 14 Families have removed to larger dwellings to meet with their requirements. An "Enquiry," by the Ministry of Health, has been held during the year to deal with 26 dwelling-houses. That in the opinion of the Council should be dealt with under the Clearance Orders, and the confirmation of the Orders are expected shortly.

Whilst on the subject of "Housing," I am astonished at the rapidity that new houses become occupied, long before the time that the house has become reasonably dry. If an old house is showing signs of dampness, there are numerous complaints, and yet at the same time people are allowed to go into new houses, where every room in the house is damp. I am of the opinion that the certificate for occupation should be with-held until the whole of the house is reasonably dry.

**Caravans.** I am pleased to report that there is only one in the district, and that there is a possibility that this will be done away with. The usual caravans that visit the district during the Fair are visited and are mostly of a high standard and reflect great credit on the inhabitants for the high standard of cleanliness that is maintained.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	532
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ....	532
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ....	532
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ....	
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .... ..	41
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	41

2.	Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :—	
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ....	41
3.	Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—	
	(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
	(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ....	Nil.
	(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices ....	Nil.
	(a) By Owners ....	
	(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ....	Nil.
	(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
	(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	532
	(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
	(a) By Owners ....	532
	(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ....	Nil.
	(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
	(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ....	3
	(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ....	12
	(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
	(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ....	Nil.
	(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ....	Nil.
4.	Housing Act, 1936. Part 4. Overcrowding.	
	(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ....	126
	(2) Number of families dwelling therein ....	126
	(3) Number of persons dwelling therein ....	768
	(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ....	None
	(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ....	14
	(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ....	86
	(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ....	Nil.
	(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report.	



## COMMON LODGING HOUSE.

The only one in the district has been visited on many occasions by your Inspector and myself during the year. I am pleased to report that no complaints have been made with reference to the manner in which this establishment has been conducted during the year. The linewashing of the rooms has been carried out, and as far as the cleanliness is concerned this has been attended to as far as the facilities allow. Better Cooking arrangements and an installation of a plentiful supply of Hot Water should be made available.

## WATER.

All the Belper water is from various rock beds in the Millstone Grit series of rocks and shales.

The highest is called the rough rock or first grit. Springwood and Bullsmoor are both at the bottom of the Coxbench Grit with a bed of shale in between it and Ladywell, which is at the bottom of the Belper Grit.

Both these beds are local names for the Middle Grit group and further North it is called the Chatsworth Grit or third Grit.

The Waterworks water is got from the Upper Kinderscout Grit in the well and the borehole goes down to the lower Kinderscout Grit.

The District is supplied from four Reservoirs, namely :—

Bullsmoor Reservoir with a capacity of 293,000 gallons.

Springwood Reservoir with a capacity of 293,000 gallons.

Ladywell Reservoir with a capacity of 41,000 gallons.

Bessyloan Reservoir with a capacity of 400,000 gallons.

The first three are fed by Springs, and when the flow of the Springs fall below their normal level, the supplies are augmented from the Strutt Waterworks, which is ample and never failing.

Samples have been taken during the year and submitted for chemical and Bacteriological examination, and the reports showed the same to be of good quality. It is a matter for congratulation that we are in the happy position of having a plentiful supply, and to know that we can supply the surrounding parishes, and it is hoped that in the near future additional machinery will be installed as a stand-by in case of necessity.

## RAINFALL.

The total rainfall for the year was 27.47.

The highest for the month was in January, when there was 3.78 inches, and the lowest was in August, .45 inches.

I am indebted to R. G. R. Giblett, Esq., of the Herbert Strutt School, for the readings of the rainfall.

## DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

There are forty-five Milk Producers and fifty-six Milk Retailers in the District. All the Cowsheds have been visited by your Inspector and myself, and are always under constant supervision. Cow-byres have been modernised by the laying down of concrete floors, improved lighting has been effected, four new Dairies have been installed. Steam Plants have been installed for the sterilisation of the milk utensils. I should like to see every farm where milk is produced, equipped with a sterilising plant to ensure that all milk utensils are thoroughly cleansed before use, and I am of the opinion that improvements could be effected in the delivery of milk. There are one or two Milk Retailers whom I have had the occasion to draw their attention to the unhygienic state of the vehicles from whence milk is retailed.

### MILK AND DAIRIES (Consolidation) ACT, 1915.

### MILK AND DAIRIES (Amendment) ACT, 1922.

### MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

Total number of cowsheds in district	....	....	87
Total number of farms in district	....	....	45

### Work done during 1937.

#### *Number of Cowsheds :—*

1. Newly built....	....	....	....	....	1
2. Entirely remodelled internally	....	....	....	....	—
3. Not now used for milk beast	....	....	....	....	—
4. Where new floors were laid	....	....	....	....	41
5. Where floors were repaired	....	....	....	....	—
6. Where feeding troughs repaired or provided	....	....	....	....	10
7. Where lighting and ventilation were improved	....	....	....	....	—
8. Where lofts were removed	....	....	....	....	—
9. Where loft floors were improved	....	....	....	....	—
10. Where drain inlets were removed to outside	....	....	....	....	2
11. Where drainage was provided	....	....	....	....	—
12. Where walls were rendered in cement	....	....	....	....	12
13. Where standings were paved	....	....	....	....	41
14. Where approach paving was repaired	....	....	....	....	—
15. Which were cleaned up	....	....	....	....	—
16. Where manure dump was moved	....	....	....	....	3
17. Where manure dump was improved	....	....	....	....	—
18. Where work is completed	....	....	....	....	8
19. Where work is in progress	....	....	....	....	—

#### *Number of Farms :—*

1. Where new dairies were built	....	....	....	....	3
2. Where dairies were improved	....	....	....	....	—
3. Where cow-keeping was given up	....	....	....	....	—

### FOOD STORES.

These have been visited on several occasions during the year and I am pleased to report that there have been no grounds for complaint relative as to the cleanliness of the shops or to the articles of food stored.

During the year eighty-six samples were taken, including eighteen milk samples.

Four samples of beer from three public houses were found to be contaminated with lead. In one case the vendor was cautioned. Contamination in other samples was considered to be excessive, and proceedings were instituted. The two cases were dismissed on payment of costs, £2 6s. 0d. and £1 15s. 6d., respectively. Fifty tins of assorted Fruit and Fish and 36 lbs. of Tongue and five bags of Mussels have been condemned as unfit for the Food of Man.

### BAKEHOUSES.

There are nine Bakehouses in the district and these have been visited on many occasions. I am pleased to report that I have very little to complain about as regards the hygienic manner of this particular trade or business. On four occasions I have had cause to complain as to the necessity of overdue Limewashing of the Bakehouses, and I am pleased to report that this was done without delay, and on no occasion had I to complain a second time.

### SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There are nine Slaughterhouses in the district. All have been visited on many occasions. The Premises have been kept in a clean condition, the meat has been of a very high standard, and credit is due to the Butchers for their help and co-operation in their endeavour to provide the Public with meat of high quality. During the year I have had no cause to condemn any Meat as being deceased or unwholesome.

#### Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle ex- cluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number Killed (if known)	728	—	135	2184	1560
Number inspected ....	546	—	135	1563	1170
All diseases except tuber- culosis. Whole carcases condemned ....	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organs was condemned	—	—	—	—	—



Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis ....	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis only. Whole Carcases condemned ....	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	6	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ....	.82	—	—	—	—

### AIR POLLUTION.

Observations have been made during the year with reference to the emission of smoke from factory chimneys in the district. I have had occasion three times during the year to call the attention of the Stoker to the volume of smoke that was causing a nuisance to the neighbouring dwelling-houses, and improvement has been effected.

### RATS AND MICE.

During the year complaints have been received of the presence of Rats about dwelling-houses. Where Rats have been found, the matter has been brought to the attention of the occupiers of the infested property. The usual course has been adopted, and the nuisance has been remedied.

### NIGHTSOIL.

The collection of Nightsoil from all Pails throughout the district and the Privies in the East Ward is done by contract, and the Council undertake the emptying of the Privies in the three other Wards. During the year 572 Tanks of Nightsoil were collected. These were deposited at three points, and no complaints have been received where the dumping of the Nightsoil has taken place. In order to avoid complaints being made, the Nightsoil has been covered up as quickly as possible, with earth or other material which is always at hand. I would recommend to expedite the work being carried out more speedily owing to the long distances between the calls—a Motor with a convertible body, on which a tank could be used for the collection of Nightsoil in the night-time, and then in the daytime the tank could be taken off and the motor could be used for other purposes.

### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

This matter has received your Officials' attention during the year. I am pleased to report that progress has been made in 14 more instances than last year, and I am hopeful that greater progress will be made during the year 1938, in ridding the district of

these abominations. I have advocated for years that it would be in the best interest of the Council if they decided to raise a loan to convert all the Pails and Privies into the Water Carriage system. Reverting back to the sewerage of the Blackbrook, Farnah Green and the Lower Chevin Road, in which the Council will have to raise a Loan for the Sewering, I would suggest that an Item be added, viz., a loan for the Replacement of the Pails and Privies in the above districts by Water Closets.

Below I give you a statement showing the number of various classes of Closets there are in the district :—

<i>Ward.</i>			<i>Pails.</i>	<i>Privies.</i>
South Ward	....	....	46	2
North Ward	....	....	67	22
East Ward	....	....	160	10
Central	....	....	51	3
Milford	....	....	100	4
TOTALS			424	41

And the various types of Closets are as follows :—

Privy Middens	....	....	....	41
Pails	....	....	....	424
Water Closets	....	....	....	2,917
Trough and Slop Water Closets	....	....	....	111
TOTALS				3,493

#### **Conversions to Water Closets during 1937.**

Privy Middens	....	....	....	7
Pail Closets	....	....	....	23
TOTAL				30

#### **COLLECTION OF HOUSEHOLD REFUSE.**

This is carried out by a Bedford Motor Lorry with a capacity of 7 cubic yards, which is out the  $5\frac{1}{2}$  working days, and a Tuke and Bell Horse-drawn vehicle, of  $3\frac{3}{4}$  cubic yards, which is out 3 days one week and four the other: The number of men employed on the Motor Lorry are four Fillers and the Driver, with the Horse-drawn vehicle, one Filler and the Driver who assist in the loading.

This Branch has received your Officials' careful attention during the year, and with the ever-increasing number of new houses that are being erected, there has not been any necessity, either to increase the Labour or the Vehicles engaged on this important work.

The only complaints that I have received during the year were received during the holiday time. At this juncture I wish to point out that this could have been avoided, and I desire to strongly emphasise the absolute necessity of removing putrescible matter

from dwelling-house; at least once per week, not allowing it to remain for 14 days as was the case, and that no interference be allowed to interfere with the routine work.

### ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Three private houses have been treated for the eradication of Bed Bugs. All have been disinfected. The method adopted is by fumigation, using prepared fumigant, which has proved efficacious. The work of disinfection has been carried out by the Local Authority under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

### RAG FLOCK ACT, 1911 AND 1928.

Frequent visits and inspections are made where this commodity is used, and strict attention is paid to see that the guarantee of the purity of the Flocks is in accordance with the Acts.

### FRIED FISH SHOPS.

There are twenty-seven of these establishments in the district, which I am pleased to report are working well with one or two exceptions, where I have had cause to draw the Proprietor's attention to the uncleanly state of the Stoves and Premises; but taken on the whole, everything is carried out on hygienic lines, and reflects great credit on the Proprietors of these establishments.

### PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS.

Belper U.D.C., I am pleased to report, possesses one of the best and most up-to-date Swimming Baths, 70 ft. long and 27 ft. wide, the depth of the water at the deep end being 6 ft. and at the shallow end 2 ft. 6 ins., and which is installed with the latest system of filtration. On my visits I have found the water to be exceptionally clear and sparkling, the water being changed every four hours.

During the year 1937, 27,190 persons visited the Swimming Bath, and 2,007 persons visited the Slipper Baths.

### FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, AND WORKPLACES.

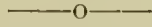
#### 1. Inspection of Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces.

Factories 30, Written Notices 1; Workshops, 46; Workplaces Nil. Totals—76 Inspections; 1 Written Notice.

Defects found :—

Want of cleanliness	....	6 Found	6 Remedied
„ ventilation	....	1 „	1 „
Sanitary accommodation—insufficient	....	1 „	1 „
„ „ unsuitable or defective	1	„	1 „
„ „ not separate for sexes	1	„	— „
	—	10	9
		—	—

**SANITARY INSPECTORS ANNUAL REPORT FOR  
THE YEAR 1937.**



Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my 27th Annual Report with a Statistical Statement of the work that has been carried out during the year.

In taking a retrospective view of last year, a great amount of useful work has been accomplished. Improvements have been effected in many directions, old drains have been taken up where found to be in a defective condition, and new drains have been laid in accordance with the Bye-laws.

The conversion of Pail Closets and Privies have been proceeded with, and twenty-three Pails and seven Privies have been abolished, as compared with eight Pails, and eight Privies converted during the year 1936.

I am hoping that during the year 1938 greater strides will be made, and that as far as possible before long, we shall be rid of these abominations, from the centre of the district in any case, if not, from a greater part of the Urban Area.

In fifty-nine instances defective waste traps and drains have been brought up to modern requirements. These have entailed a large number of visits before the work has been commenced, and also while the work was in progress.

In thirty instances drains were found to be blocked, and mostly in all the cases the blockage has been at the Interceptor, conclusively pointing out the disadvantage of the interceptor, I have for many years advocated the abolition of the interceptor. I am convinced that it is a useless article, and, certainly a disadvantage to the flow of the sewage. I again venture to suggest that both the interceptor and the Mica Flap be done away with, as in the majority of cases one finds that the Mica Flap has perished, and in other instances one finds that the fresh air is completely blocked up. In my opinion a great improvement could be made if there was only one tall shaft to each system of drains, and the interceptor done away with. I am sure that there would not be so many complaints about foul gases emanating from the Sewers, as there would be more fresh air entering them, and so ventilating them efficiently.



The paving of Yards has been carried out in fifty-nine cases. In the main these have been laid in concrete, which, in my opinion is far the best method, both from an economical and a health point of view. Roofs have been repaired and made water-tight. Eave-spouts and down-spouts have received attention.

Windows that were not made to open have also received your Official's attention, as it is of primary importance that all windows should be made to open, to allow for sufficient ventilation, in order that all rooms should be freed from vitiated air.

### HOUSING.

A large amount of useful work has been carried out during the year, under this heading. The word "Housing" has a magnetic effect on the minds of most people; imaginative ideas come into our minds where improvements could be made, we put them into practice, improvements are noted, and these have improved the healthy conditions of the dwellings.

### SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Numerous visits and inspections have been made to the slaughterhouses in the district. It is with pleasure I have again to report that I have had no occasion to complain about the conduct of the business, the sanitary state of the buildings, or to the quality of the meat that has been found in them, with the exception in a few instances of diseased organs.

Inspections of Cowsheds have been carried out during the year. Great improvements have been made in several of them, new concrete standings and floors have been laid, new windows have been put in to give more light and ventilation to the sheds. New troughs have been installed, walls have been cement rendered to facilitate easier cleansing, new cooling sheds have been erected, and general improvements have been made to bring the sheds up to modern requirements.

### SHOP HOURS ACTS.

I reported in my last Annual Report that steady progress had been made in this direction to bring about the closing of shops at the hours prescribed under the Act. I have to report that progress has again been made this year, if it has only been by the controversial spirit that has been created between a few of

the Shop-keepers. Why can Mr. So-and-so keep open? Then explanations have to be made that Mr. So-and-so can keep his shop open because he can sell certain articles after the general closing time. In my opinion, by these conversations a certain amount of corrections can be made. Preliminary notices have been made on nine occasions for contraventions under the Shop Acts for the installation of a Heating Apparatus to maintain a reasonable temperature in the shops, and I am pleased to report that in eight of the cases I was met with consideration, and the Notices were complied with. Of the remaining one, the Proprietor installed a Gas Radiator, but as the shop has an open front, the apparatus was of very little use, particularly as the shop-front is facing due North. Further correspondence has taken place, and I am hoping that before another Winter comes round the shop-front will be blocked in and an improved apparatus for maintaining a reasonable temperature will be installed.

### PETROL INSPECTION.

There are twenty-six persons licensed to store Petrol in the district in various quantities from 100 to 4,800 gallons. I am pleased to report that the conditions laid down for the storage of Petrol, as far as I can ascertain, have been carried out. With one exception the whole of the storage is by means of underground tanks.

### HOUSEHOLD REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The work under this heading has received my careful attention during the year.

In the past year very few complaints have been reported, and those that were made, were made during the holiday periods, when it was impossible to get round the districts at the regular times. 1,918 Motor Lorry loads were removed during the year, eighty-two more than the previous year, and 908 loads by the Tuke and Bell horse-drawn vehicle. Of these 890 Motor Loads were dealt with at the Destructor, and 454 were disposed at the Controlled Tip. 803 Tuke and Bell loads of refuse were dealt with at the Destructor, and the remainder were taken to the controlled Tip.

The average number of Bins per Bedford Lorry Load is seventy-one, and the average Loading time per load is 1 hour and 10 minutes. The number of Loaders for the Motor Lorry is four; two of the men are engaged in fetching the Bins from the houses to the kerb-

side, two are loading and one is taking the empties back to their original positions. The Bedford Motor Lorry has now been on the Road for five years, and as the number of houses is increasing, when the time arrives for purchasing a new Motor Refuse Collecting Vehicle, I would recommend that a Ten Cubic Yard vehicle be purchased, in order to reduce as far as possible the running time.

Your Financial Officer has been good enough to furnish me with the following figures relative to the cost of collection of Household Refuse, Scavenging and Disposal :—

					£	s.	d.
Scavenging	....	....	....	....	470	10	8
Destructor	....	....	....	....	903	0	2
Ashing	....	....	....	....	1,216	12	7

In conclusion, I beg to thank the Chairman and the Committee for their kind consideration of the Reports that have been submitted during the Year.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN A. STATHAM,

*Sanitary Inspector*



## Annual Report of Sanitary Inspector.

—o—

Inspector : JOHN A. STATHAM, Cert. R. San. In.,  
Cert. Meat and Other Foods In.

Area of District, 4294 acres.      Estimated number of Houses, 3493.

New Houses erected 1937—(a) By Local Authority, Nli.  
(b) By Private enterprise, 51.

### Closets and Ashpits.

Defective privies, pails, and ashpits	...	...	...	...
Conversion of privies into W.C.'s	... 20	7	...	7
,, of pail closets into W.C.'s	92	23	1	23
Conversion of privies into pail closets	...	...	...	..
Defective Water Closets	... 12	12	...	12
Provision of additional Water Closets	...	...	...	...
Provision of portable ashbins	...714	238	...	218
Dirty closets	... 41	41	...	41

### Drainage.

No Disconnection of Waste Pipe	... ..	...	...	...
Defective waste pipe, traps, inlets, and drains	... 77	59	...	59
Drains obstructed	... 30	30	...	30

### Other Defects.

Paving of courts and yards	... 59	59	...	59
Roofs, eave-spouts, and down spouts	... 32	32	...	32
Sinks	... 6	2	...	2
Insufficient ventilation	...	...	...	...
Windows	... 72	21	...	21
Dampness	... 72	25	...	25
Water in Cellars	... 1	1	...	1
Water supply	... 2	2	...	1
Overcrowding	1913	...	...	...
Foul condition of houses	... 3	3	...	3
Offensive accumulations	... 12	12	...	12
Animals improperly kept	... 1	1	...	1
Pigsties	... 1	1	...	1
Smoke nuisance	... 2	2	...	2
Urinals	...	...	...	...
Nuisances not specified above	... 6	6	...	6
Totals	... 3168	577	1	556

			<i>Number on</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Notices</i>	<i>Nuisances</i>
			<i>Register.</i>	<i>made.</i>	<i>served.</i>	<i>abated with</i> <i>or without</i> <i>Notices.</i>
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops...			45	92	...	121
Bakehouses	...	...	10	40	...	6
Slaughterhouses	...	...	7	300	...	...
Offensive Trades	...	...	37	64	...	4
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	1	49	...	...
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	...		100	545	—	131
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

(Signed) JOHN A. STATHAM.



